PATENT
Docket No. 300622005210

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Marian Christopher

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Robert McDANIEL

Serial No.: Not yet Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: PRODUCTION OF 8,8a-DIHYDROXY-6-DEOXYERYTHRONOLIDE B

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, please replace the present paragraph with the following paragraph:

--This patent application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/768,927, filed 23 January 2001 and claims priority to PCT patent application Serial No. 99/24478, filed 22 Oct. 1999; and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/428,517, filed 28 Oct. 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,251,636 which issued on 26 June 2001; and claims priority to U.S.

provisional application Serial Nos. 60/177,660, filed 27 Jan. 00, 60/120,254, filed 16 Feb. 1999, and 60/106,100, filed 29 Oct. 98; each of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

On page 1, line 18, please replace the present paragraph with the following paragraph:

--Oleandomycin (compound (1) of Figure 1) is a member of the macrolide class of antibiotics. Macrolides are a large family of polyketide natural products which include erythromycin, spiramycin, FK506, and avermectin (see Katz *et al.*, *Polyketide synthesis: Prospects for hybrid antibiotics*, *Ann. Rev. Microbiol.* 47: 875-912, 1993; and Hopwood, *Genetic contributions to understanding polyketide synthases*, *Chem. Rev.* 97: 2465-2497, 1997, each of which is incorporated herein by reference). The macrolactone core of oleandomycin, 8,8a-deoxyoleandolide (compound (2) of Figure 1), like those of other macrolides, is synthesized by a modular polyketide synthase (PKS; see Figure 1 and Swan *et al.*, *Characterisation of a Streptomyces antibioticus gene encoding a type I polyketide synthase which has an unusual coding sequence*, *Molec. Gen. Genet.* 242: 358-362, 1994, and U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/428,517, filed 28 Oct. 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,251,636 which issued on June 26, 2001, each of which is incorporated herein by reference). 8,8a-deoxyoleandolide is structurally identical to the macrolactone precursor of erythromycin, 6-deoxyerythronolide B (6-dEB, see compound (3) of Figure 2), with the exception of a C-13 methyl instead of the C-13 ethyl group of 6-dEB. Thus, 6-dEB is derived from condensations between a propionate starter unit and six methylmalonate extender units, and 8, 8a-deoxyoleandolide has an acetate starter unit.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 18-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

CONCLUSION

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 300622005210.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 16, 2001 By: ______________________

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5, has been amended as follows:

This patent application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/768,927, filed 23 January 2001 and claims priority to PCT patent application No. 99/24478, filed 22 Oct. 1999; and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/428,517, filed 28 Oct. 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,251,636 which issued on 26 June 2001; and claims priority to U.S. provisional application Serial Nos. 60/177,660, filed 27 Jan. 00, 60/120,254, filed 16 Feb. 1999, and 60/106,100, filed 29 Oct. 98[,] ; each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

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